

STEERING, LEGISLATIVE & GOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE

May 3, 2010

5:30 p.m.

Courthouse

MINUTES:

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Commissioner Jack Black
Commissioner Adam Coggin
Commissioner Gary Farley
Commissioner Jeff Jordan
Commissioner Jeff Phillips
Commissioner Steve Sandlin
Commissioner John Rodgers, C

OTHERS PRESENT:

Ernest Burgess
Jennifer Gerhart
Patsy Briley
Becky Shelton

Chairman Rodgers presided and called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. with all members being present at that time.

MINUTES:

"Commissioner Coggin moved, seconded by Commissioner J. Jordan, to approve the minutes of the last meeting as mailed. This motion passed unanimously by acclamation."

ANNOUNCE TWO VACANCIES ON LINEBAUGH LIBRARY BOARD:

Chairman Rodgers advised the positions of Marilyn Castelli and Melissa Batey on the Linebaugh Library Board were expiring and accordingly being announced.

FILL THREE VACANCIES ON EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS BOARD:

Chairman Rodgers advised applications had been received from Glenn Chrisman as the City of Murfreesboro representative, Truman Jones and John D. Hood to the Emergency Communications Board. Following discussion,

"Commissioner Farley moved, seconded by Commissioner Sandlin, to recommend appointment of Glenn Chrisman as the City of Murfreesboro representative, Truman Jones and John D. Hood to the Emergency Communications Board. This motion passed unanimously by acclamation."

APPOINTMENT OF JUDICIAL COMMISSIONER:

Chairman Rodgers next advised the Judge of the Smyrna Municipal Court has requested appointment of Sergio Gutierrez and Susan Keith as judicial commissioners pursuant to the authority contained in Tennessee Public Acts of 1978, Chapter 933, for terms not to exceed four years and such terms to conclude and terminate if and when the terms are concluded or the service with the Town of Smyrna is terminated. Following discussion,

"Commissioner Phillips moved, seconded by Commissioner Sandlin, to recommend appointment of Sergio Gutierrez and Susan Keith as judicial commissioners for terms not to exceed four years and such terms to conclude and terminate if and when the terms are concluded or the service with the Town of Smyrna is terminated. This motion passed unanimously by acclamation."

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE HB 2509/SB 2607 RELATIVE TO COUNTY REGISTER'S:

Jennifer Gerhart, Register of Deed's next addressed the Committee requesting Rutherford County opt in to HB 2509/SB 2607

amending Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 8-21-1001 which allows Register's to use revenue collected from data processing fees above an amount necessary to purchase computer equipment and software, upgrades to computer equipment and software and supplies, maintenance and services relating to computer equipment and software for other purposes directly related to the official function of such office. The amendment further provides the Register shall obtain the approval of the County legislative body for such purchases. Following discussion,

"Commissioner Farley moved, seconded by Commissioner Black, to approve Rutherford County opting in to HB 2509/SB2607 for and on behalf of the Register of Deed's. This motion passed unanimously by acclamation."

CREATION OF RUTHERFORD FIRE AND RESCUE DEPARTMENT:

Mayor Burgess next presented a proposed Resolution to create the Rutherford Fire and Rescue Department advising Public Safety Committee has endorsed the concept and the money is in the budget. Mayor Burgess advised various grants and other funding mechanisms are also being pursued. To qualify for some firefighter grants, a fire department needs to be established. The department shall be funded exclusively from revenues generated by situs-based taxes collected in unincorporated areas of the County as monies generated from within municipalities cannot be used.

Mayor Burgess advised the initial department will be composed of Rutherford Volunteer Fire Department, Salem/Blackman Volunteer Fire Department and Rutherford Rescue Squad. The department will respond to all structure fires and have one employee of Chief. Other volunteer fire departments will remain separate and contract with the County for services and this department does not affect them in anyway. The other volunteer departments will continue to receive funding from the County and do their fundraising activities.

Mayor Burgess advised capital costs are estimated at \$3,700,000 for both the Rutherford Fire & Rescue Department and communications infrastructure. If the County were to receive all the grants and assistance requested to date, the capital required from the County would be \$918,000. If the grants are not received, it may be necessary to implement the plan over several years.

The plan has been presented at the Fire Chiefs' Association meeting as well as Public Safety Committee so everyone should be familiar with the plan although they may not all agree with the same. Following discussion,

"Commissioner Sandlin moved, seconded by Commissioner Black, to approve the Resolution to Create the Rutherford Fire and Rescue Department as presented contingent upon funding and forward the same to the Budget Committee. This motion passed unanimously by acclamation."

WIDENING OF LEBANON ROAD, STATE ROUTE 231:

Commissioner Black reminded the Committee of the discussion had at the last Commission meeting when a conditional use permit was requested for a commercial development on Highway 231 and the volume of traffic and safety concerns expressed. Commissioner Black advised he would like a Resolution to the proper authorities to start the process of widening Highway 231. Mayor Burgess advised this would need to be a joint City and County venture initially getting the road on the Long Range Plan of the Metropolitan Planning Organization and forwarding the same to the State legislators. Commissioner Black will address the Public Works Committee regarding widening of Highway 231.

LETTER FROM RUTHERFORD NEIGHBORHOOD ALLIANCE:

Commissioner Sandlin next inquired as to the request last month of Rutherford Neighborhood Alliance on a policy regarding Commissioner's texting in Commission meetings. Mayor Burgess advised from his limited research it appears nothing can be done so long as it does not disrupt meetings and there is no parliamentary process to address this. Commissioner Phillips advised he has changed his opinion and feels phones should be on vibrate or voice mail and not necessarily turned completely off.

There appearing to be no further business to come before the Committee, Chairman Rodgers declared the meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

JOHN RODGERS, Chairman